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Group home owner faces abuse charge

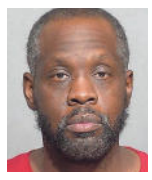
Health officials say investigation is ongoing

Ashley Luthern Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

A former police officer who co-owns three group homes in Milwaukee for seniors with memory problems and developmental disabilities repeatedly stomped on the head of a 73-year-old man who fell out of bed, prosecutors say.

The elderly man suffered a small brain bleed and facial fractures, and doctors used four staples to close a wound on his head. He later told a detective he remembered his attacker claiming he would "get away with it because I am a police officer," according to the criminal complaint.

David L. Howard Jr., 45, of Brown Deer, now faces a charge of aggravated battery with substantial risk involving a victim over 62 years old. Howard denied the accusations when questioned by police, the complaint says. His initial court date is scheduled for June 29.



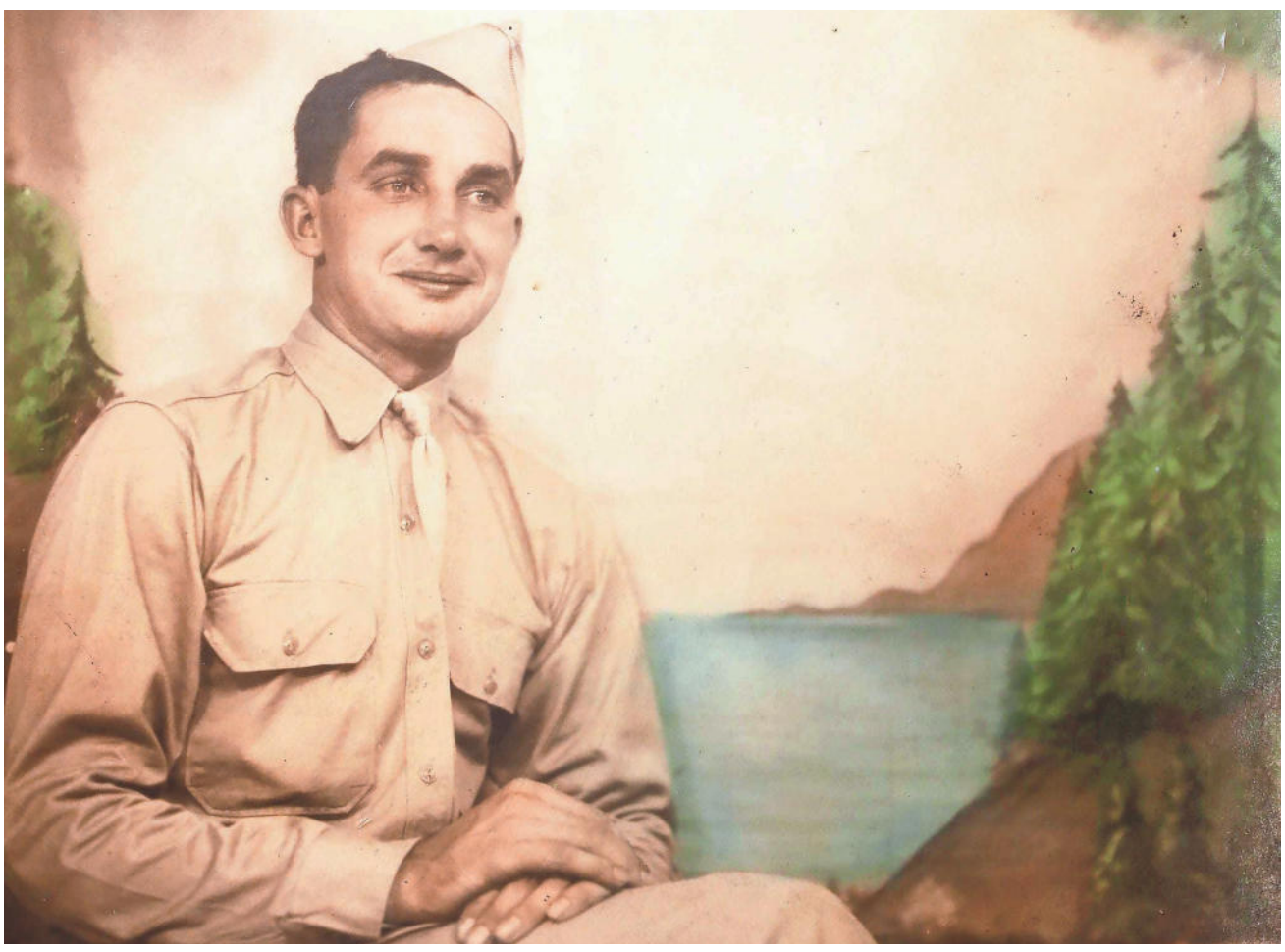
Howard Jr.

Milwaukee property records show Howard and his wife, Toni Howard, own A Place For Miracles, 5100 N. 42nd St., where the assault was reported May 11. The two also own two other senior group homes in the city, each with a capacity of about a half-dozen residents. State Department of Health Services records list Toni Howard as the point of contact for all three.

The state Department of Health Services, which regulates senior care facilities, did not answer questions from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel about how

See CHARGE, Page 10A

Milwaukee vet killed in WWII is finally getting a headstone



Staff Sgt. Walter Schaller was a Wisconsin National Guard Red Arrow Division soldier who was killed in New Guinea in February 1944. Schaller's remains returned to Milwaukee five years later for burial, but Schaller never got a headstone. COURTESY OF JUDY PROELL

Meg Jones Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Staff Sgt. Walter A. Schaller died instantly when he stepped on a landmine in New Guinea in 1944.

His body was buried nearby in the jungle like others in the Wisconsin National Guard Red Arrow Division who lost their lives fighting the Japanese in the penetrating heat and relentless rain.

Schaller's remains returned to Milwaukee five years later for burial in the city where he grew up and worked at the local power company. But Schaller never got a headstone.

He had managed to survive the brutal and bloody Buna campaign throughout the fall of 1942 in New Guinea — a campaign that took such a toll on Wisconsin National Guard troops that the unit needed a year to recuperate in Australia before returning to battle. He had endured another seven weeks of fighting in 1944. And then his remains were buried in an unmarked grave and all

See HONOR, Page 8A

Medical students graduate to front lines

Typically exciting time tinged with extra fear

Devi Shastri
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

As he approached graduation and a move to the University of Vermont for the start of his career in medicine, Ali Jandal acknowledged that he was afraid.

"How I feel about it changes day by day," said Jandal, who is from La Crosse. "I think I've always been a little scared, because viruses are easy to spread and it's really hard to keep yourself safe from them."

In their final weeks of medical school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Jandal and his peers had seen the world turned upside down.

"I want to argue that the end of our medical school careers is poetic," Jandal said in an address during the school's virtual graduation. "And if any class was made for this challenge, it was us."

They were the first to navigate the medical program's new curriculum. They spent the last weeks of school at home, as the doctors they knew fought COVID-19 on the front lines. They celebrated Match Day — the day they learn where they'll work their residencies — and graduation from behind computer screens.

Now, they'll put their training to use. Working in internal medicine, Jandal expects to see COVID-19 patients who aren't sick enough to be in an intensive care unit — both those who are getting

See GRADS, Page 10A

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M-GCI0414-074-01

Honks replace hugs

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee celebrated Eid al-Fitr with a drive-through event Sunday. **Local, 3A**

Guns, dogs and voting

"Getting access to a gun in America is easier than adopting a dog or registering to vote." Is it? **PolitiFact, 2A**

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